

those kinds of *crustaceous* creatures, especially about their bellies, and seem'd of three kinds; the head F seem'd cover'd with a kind of scaly shell, the *thorax* with two smooth shells, or Rings, G G, and the belly with eight knobb'd ones. I could not certainly find whether it had under these last shells any wings, but I suspect the contrary; for I have not found any wing'd Insect with eight leggs, two of those leggs being always converted into wings, and, for the most part, those that have but six, have wings.

This creature, though I could never meet with more than one of them, and so could not make so many examinations of it as otherwise I would, I did notwithstanding, by reason of the great curiosity that appear'd to me in its shape, delineate it, to shew that, in all likelihood, Nature had crouded together into this very minute Insect, as many, and as excellent contrivances, as into the body of a very large Crab, which exceeds it in bulk, perhaps, some Millions of times; for as to all the apparent parts, there is a greater rather than a less multiplicity of parts, each legg has as many parts, and as many joints as a Crabs, nay, and as many hairs or bristles; and the like may be in all the other visible parts; and 'tis very likely, that the internal curiosities are not less excellent: It being a general rule in Nature's proceedings, that where she begins to display any excellency, if the subject be further search'd into, it will manifest, that there is not less curiosity in those parts which our single eye cannot reach, then in those which are more obvious.

Observ. LII. Of the small Silver-colour'd Book-worm.

Among greater Animals there are many that are scaled, both for ornament and defence, so are there not wanting such also among the lesser bodies of Insects, whereof this little creature gives us an Instance. It is a small white Silver-shining Worm or Moth, which I found much conversant among Books and Papers, and is suppos'd to be that which corrodes and eats holes through the leaves and covers; it appears to the naked eye, as small glistering Pearl-colour'd Moth, which upon the removing of Books and Papers in the Summer, is often observ'd very nimbly to scud, and pack away to some lurking cranny, where it may the better protect it self from any appearing dangers. Its head appears bigg and blunt, and its body tapers from it towards the tail, smaller and smaller, being shap'd almost like a Carret.

This the *Microscopical* appearance will more plainly manifest, which exhibits, in the third *Figure* of the 33. *Scheme*, a conical body, divided into fourteen several partitions, being the appearance of so many several shells, or shields that cover the whole body, every of these shells are again cover'd or tiled over with a multitude of thin transparent scales, which, from the multiplicity of their reflecting surfaces, make the whole Animal appear of a perfect Pearl-colour.

Which

Which, by the way, may hint us the reason of that so many appearance of those so highly esteem'd bodies, as also of the of Pearl-shells, and in multitudes of other shelly Sea-subst each of them consisting of an infinite number of very th minated orbiculations, cause such multitudes of reflection positions of them together with the reflections of others as to afford colours (of which I elsewhere give the reason) ry pleasant reflection of light. And that this is the true cause first, because all those so appearing bodies are compound of plated substances. And next that, by ordering any trans after this manner, the like *Phænomena* may be produc'd; th very obvious by the blowing of Glas into exceeding thin then breaking them into scales, which any lamp-worker will for a good quantity of these scales, laid in a heap together, same resemblance of Pearls. Another way, not less instructive, is a way which I have several times done, which is by rolling, as 'twere, a parcel of pure crystalline glas whilst it is hot in the blown flame of a Lamp, for, by that means, that the rent body will be so divided into an infinite number of strings, with interpos'd aerial plates and *fibres*, that from the of the reflections from each of those internal surfaces, it out into curious Pearl-like or Silver wire, which though be opacous; the same thing I have done with a composition of *phon* and *Turpentine*, and a little Bee's Wax, and may be with Birdlime, and such like glutinous and transparent bodies turn to our description.

The small blunt head of this Insect was furnish'd on either side with a cluster of eyes, each of which seem'd to contain but one comparison of what I had observ'd the clusters of other Insects with; each of these clusters were beset with a row of small like the *cilia* or hairs on the eye-lids, and, perhaps, they serve the same purpose. It had two long horns before, which were tapering towards the top, curiously ring'd or knobb'd, and like the Marsh Weed, call'd Horse-tail, or Cats-tail, having a ring'd Girdle, as I may so call it, of smaller hairs, and several larger bristles, here and there dispers'd among them: beside two shorter horns, or feelers, which were knotted and fringed at the former, but wanted bristles, and were blunt at the ends; the of the creature was terminated with three tails, in every resembling the two longer horns that grew out of the head: it were scal'd and hair'd much like the rest, but are not express'd in the *Figure*, the Moth being intangled all in Glew, and so the appear'd not through the Glas which looked perpendicular to the back.

This Animal probably feeds upon the Paper and covers, and perforates in them several small round holes, finding, perhaps, a convenient nourishment in those husks of Hemp and Flax, which

F f